

sides of the same specimen, viz. on one side being continuous and on the other broken up into oblong spots. In one specimen there is a ring-like spot, including a small white central spot, on the hinder part of the eye on one side, and not on the other. There are one or two obscure streaks on the side of the neck, parallel to the upper one. I described the head and neck of this species as being streaked when mentioning the species of the hairy tortoise of the Chinese in the *Ann. & Mag. Nat. Hist.* 1873, xi. p. 148.

3. Several specimens of what Mr. Swinhoe very correctly considers a new species of Terrapin, which I propose to name

*Damonia unicolor.* (The Black Damonia.)

Animal and shell black. Shell oblong, three-keeled. Vertebral shields oblong, broader than long, the first one nearly square, as broad behind as in front; vertebral keel broad and blunt in front, sharper and higher behind; the lateral keels blunt, rather above the middle of the plates.

Shanghai (Swinhoe). *Brit. Mus.*

This species is very like *Damonia Reevesii*. It chiefly differs from it in the animal and shell being black, in the front vertebral plate being more square, nearly as broad behind as in front, in the head being smaller and narrower, covered with a smooth hard plate, and the sides of the head and neck being uniformly black.

The inguinal plate varies in size: it is generally larger than in *Damonia Reevesii*; but in one specimen it is smaller and nearly of the same size; and it varies in size and form also in *D. Reevesii*.

This species is quite different from *Damonia nigricans* (also from China)—which has a single keel, and the neck marked with broad, pale, more or less interrupted longitudinal streaks.

*A new and ingenious American Move in the Game of Priority.*

The following circular letter, partly printed, partly written, which has just come to our knowledge, will, we think, somewhat amuse our readers:—

“BUFFALO SOCIETY OF NATURAL SCIENCES.

June 6, 1873.

“*To the Secretary of the ———— Society.*

“DEAR SIR,—You are hereby notified that a paper entitled “Contributions to a Knowledge of North-American Moths,” by A. R. Grote, has been read this evening before this Society, declaring that three new genera [*Litognatha*, *Meghypena*, *Phæcasiophora*] and nineteen hitherto undescribed species [*Acronycta* 4, *Agrotis* 1, *Cloantha* 2, *Litognatha* 2, *Meghypena* 2, *Botis* 1, *Eurycreon* 1, *Phæcasiophora* 1, *Penthina* 3, *Graptolitha* 1, *Æta* 1] occur in the North-American insect-fauna (*whereof these Presents, to which the Seal of this Society is affixed, are evidence*), and that this Society